GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:343
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2008
NATIONAL LITERACY MISSION
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the targets set under the National Literacy Mission (NLM) during 10th Plan period has been achieved;

(b) whether the Union Government has redesigned the NLM to infuse new zeal into it and to check relapse into illiteracy;

(c) if so,the details thereof;

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred on the new NLM programme; and

(e) the extent to which redesigning of the NLM Programme is likely to achieve the objective of cent per cent literacy in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 343 FOR 23.12.2008 ASKED BY SHRI K.S. RAO AND SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA REGARDING NATIONAL LITERACY MISSION

(a) The 10th Plan goal for adult education included achievement of 75% literacy, completion of Post Literacy in all districts,and launching of Continuing Education programmes in 100 districts in the country.The main source of data on literacy rate is the decennial census, which covers the entire population. As per the decennial census,2001,India had achieved a literacy rate of 64.84%.The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) and the National Family and Health Survey (NFHS) also collect literacy data,based on a sample of households in the different States/UTs.According to the 61st round (2004-05) of the NSSO sample survey,the overall literacy rate for the country was 67.3%.The NFHS-3 survey conducted in 2005-06 indicates a literacy rate of 67.6%.The next decennial census operation will be undertaken in 2011.At the end of the 10th plan period,95 districts were implementing total literacy campaigns,120 were implementing residual illiteracy projects,174 were in the post literacy phase and 328 districts had been sanctioned continuing education projects.

(b)&(c) The 11th Plan has merged the schemes of "Literacy Campaigns & Operation Restoration" and "Continuing Education Programme" into one programme known as "Adult Education and Skill Development" to provide for a broad based and diverse learning programme covering functional literacy,continuing education as also equivalency.The merger of the programme will provide opportunities for a person to transit seamlessly,without breaks,from basic literacy to continuing education.

(d) Rs 6000 crore has been allocated for programmes of the National Literacy Mission for the XI Plan period.

(e) The redesigned programmes of the National Literacy Mission envisage renewed focus on low literacy areas with special emphasis on literacy levels of females,scheduled castes,scheduled tribes and minorities to further enhance literacy levels of the country.